

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01  
ACDA-07 SAJ-01 /067 W  
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R 180800Z FEB 77  
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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMCONSUL ADANA  
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL  
AMCONSUL IZMIR  
USDOCOSOUTH  
USEUCOM

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 1263

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, TU, UR  
SUBJECT: TURKISH-SOVIET RELATIONS

REF: ANKARA 0516 (DTG 241241Z JAN 77)

1. FEBRUARY 17 EMBOFF MET WITH SELCUK TARLAN, MFA  
EASTERN DEPARTMENT DEPUTY DIRECTOR TO DISCUSS RECENT  
DEVELOPMENTS IN TURKEY'S RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION.  
TARLAN BEGAN THE CONVERSATION WITH AN EXTENDED REVIEW OF  
CURRENT STATUS OF U.S.-TURKISH RELATIONS AND CONCLUDED THAT  
REVIEW BY EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT THE CLIFFORD MISSION  
WOULD PROVIDE THE CATALYST FOR THE REVITALIZATION OF THAT  
RELATIONSHIP. HE THEN WENT ON TO POINT OUT THAT "WHETHER  
WE ADMIT IT OR NOT" PERIODS OF UNEASINESS BETWEEN TURKEY  
AND THE UNITED STATES PROVIDE THE SOVIET UNION WITH OPPORTUNITIES  
TO ENHANCE ITS INFLUENCE IN TURKEY. TARLAN INDICATED THAT THE  
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RECENT SOVIET OFFERS OF EXPANDED ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND--TO A  
LESSER EXTENT--TURKEY'S RECEPTIVITY TO THOSE OFFERS WERE DIRECTLY  
RELATED TO THE STRAIN IN U.S.-TURKISH RELATIONS. IT WAS IN THE  
SAME CONTEXT THAT TURKEY HAD IN 1975 AGREED TO NEGOTIATE A "POLITICAL  
DOCUMENT" WITH THE SOVIET UNION, TARLAN EXPLAINED.

2. TARLAN SAID NEGOTIATION OF THE TEXT OF THE POLITICAL

DOCUMENT WAS PROCEEDING VERY SLOWLY BUT "THE SOVIETS HAVE GREAT PATIENCE". HE SAID THE DOCUMENT WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED PRIOR TO THE TURKISH GENERAL ELECTIONS SINCE PRIMIN DEMIREL HAD MADE A POLITICAL DECISION THAT IT WOULD NOT BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO DO SO. TARLAN POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT A COMMITMENT HAD BEEN MADE TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT AND ONE WOULD THEREFORE BE SIGNED SOME TIME AFTER ELECTIONS. HE ALSO OBSERVED THAT NEARLY ALL OF THE STEPS TAKEN BY THE GOT DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS TO IMPROVE TURKISH-SOVIET RELATIONS HAD BEEN TAKEN BY A DEMIREL GOVERNMENT.

3. TARLAN SAID THAT THE VISIT OF FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL TO THE SOVIET UNION, WHICH HAD BEEN ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR EARLY FEBRUARY, HAD BEEN POSTPONED AT TURKISH INITIATIVE, BUT HE DID NOT EXPLAIN THE REASON FOR THAT INITIATIVE. HE SAID GOT AND SOVIETS HAVE AGREED THAT THE VISIT WILL BE RESCHEDULED FOR SOME TIME IN MARCH OR APRIL. (FONMIN'S PERSONAL COUNSELOR INDICATED TO EMBOFF FEBRUARY 15 THAT GOT WAITING TO HEAR FROM SOVIETS ABOUT RESCHEDULING. HE COMMENTED THAT FONMIN GROMYKO'S PUBLIC APPPEARANCES HAD BEEN MINIMAL DURING RECENT WEEKS AND HE SPECULATED THAT GROMYKO MIGHT BE HAVING HEALTH PROBLEMS WHICH WOULD ACCOUNT FOR DELAY IN RESCHEDULING.)  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, AGREEMENTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Reference:** 77 ANKARA 516  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, TU, UR, US, (TARLAN, SELCUK)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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